

Claims

1
2 Sub A27
3 1. A method, including steps of
4 at a first device coupled to a communication link, generating at least one
5 first message to a set of second devices coupled to said communication link, said one first
6 message being disposed so that its receipt at said set of second devices causes said set of
7 second devices to generate at least one second message in response thereto;
8 monitoring receipt of at least one said second message at said first device;
9 determining whether or not a protocol mismatch exists between said first
10 device and any of said set of second devices, in response to a result of said step of moni-
11 toring.
12

13 2. A method as in claim 1, including steps of
14 at said first device, adjusting protocol parameters to match all of said sec-
15 ond devices.
16

17 3. A method as in claim 1, including steps of
18 at said first device, generating at least one-third message to said set of sec-
19 ond devices, said one third message being disposed so that it interferes with communica-
20 tion on said communication link when said communication link is configured as half-
21 duplex.
22

1 Sub A² 7

4. A method as in claim 1, wherein at least one of said first device and
2 at least one of said set of second devices includes an end-host or a switch.

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4 5. A method as in claim 1, wherein said communication link includes
5 an Ethernet.

6

7 6. A method as in claim 1, wherein said protocol mismatch relates to
8 configuration of said communication link as half-duplex or full-duplex.

9

10 7. A method as in claim 1, wherein said step of monitoring includes
11 determining whether or not there are a relatively normal number of said second messages
12 received at said first device.

Add A³ 7
Add B1 7